

REMARKS

It is respectfully submitted that this amendment merely places the application in a condition for allowance. No further search should be necessary in response to this amendment. Accordingly, it is requested that the amendment be entered at this time.

Applicants will now address each of the Examiner's rejections in the order in which they appear in the Final Rejection.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §112

In the Final Rejection, the Examiner rejects Claims 1-12 under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In particular, the Examiner appears to be objecting to the deletion of the term “organic” in Amendment A. In order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants are now amending the claims to recite “organic.” As it is believed that this overcomes the Examiner's objection, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103

The Examiner also rejects Claims 1-4 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Brien et al. or Baldo et al. in view of Salbeck et al. and Claims 5-12 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Grishin et al. in view of Salbeck et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of references to arrive at the claimed invention is improper. In particular, Salbeck merely discloses a spiro compound and does not

disclose or suggest any motivation, intention or reason for applying the spiro compound for an EL element. In order to emit phosphorescence, it is necessary to obtain a larger excitation energy than the excitation energy of a material that emits phosphorescence. Although singlet excitation energy is larger than triplet excitation energy, a singlet luminescent material has a small molecular weight, and molecular stability is low, which tends to cause morphological change. However, by applying the spiro compound to an EL element, both larger excitation energy for emitting phosphorescence and high molecular stability can be obtained since the molecular weight of the compound is increased, and the larger excitation energy is maintained. This is one of Applicants' reasons and intentions in discovering and deciding to use the spiro compound in the present invention. Since Salbeck does not disclose or suggest any such reason and intention, one skilled in the art would not be lead to make such a substitution. Hence, the combination of these references to arrive at the claimed invention is improper, and the claims are patentable over these references.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that these rejections now be withdrawn.

Conclusion


It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and should be allowed.

If any fee is due for this amendment, please charge our deposit account 50/1039.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 10, 2004


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